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TRANSMITTAL FORM

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Application Number	09/936,046
Filing Date	September 7, 2001
Inventor(s)	Norbert BECKER et al.
Group Art Unit	2191
Examiner Name	Anil Khatri
Attorney Docket Number	32860-000172/US

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Letter to the Official Draftsperson and _____ Sheets of Formal Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> LETTER SUBMITTING APPEAL BRIEF AND APPEAL BRIEF (w/clean version of pending claims) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Notice of Appeal, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Statement of Substance of January 31, 2006 Interview		
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Remarks</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			Remarks	
Remarks				

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name	Donald J. Daley	Reg. No.	34,313
Signature					
Date	March 3, 2006				



PATENT
32860-000172/US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Norbert BECKER et al. CONF. NO.: 7834
SERIAL NO.: 09/936,046 GROUP: 2191
FILED: September 7, 2001 EXAMINER: Anil Khatri
FOR: METHOD FOR IMPLICITLY PROJECTING
COMMUNICATIONS LINKS

**STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF JANUARY 31, 2006
INTERVIEW**

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Mail Stop Amendment

March 3, 2006

Dear Sir:

The following remarks are submitted as a Statement of Substance and in response to the Interview Summary mailed February 3, 2006.

Applicants thank the Examiner for conducting a telephone interview on January 31, 2006. During said interview, Applicants and the Examiner primarily discussed independent claim 1 and U.S. Patent No. 6,263,492 ("Fraley").

Applicants presented arguments traversing the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of Fraley. In particular, Applicants assert that Fraley fails to teach or suggest at least, "assigning, after creating an

automation solution, the automation objects to physical equipment units of a system, wherein interconnections represent intra-equipment unit communications relationships," as set forth in claim 1. Example arguments somewhat similar to those presented by Applicants are shown in Applicants' November 7, 2005 Response and February 3, 2006 Response, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Also discussed during the Interview were amendments directed to further defining the "creating," and/or the "automation objects," set forth in claim 1 in order to further distinguish over Fraley. An example of the amendments discussed is shown below. On February 3, 2006, Applicants filed an Amendment including this amended claim 1. The Examiner agreed that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) would be reconsidered in view of amended claim 1.

AMENDED CLAIM 1 AS FILED FEBRUARY 3, 2006

1. (Currently Amended) A method for projecting communications relationships within automation solutions comprising:

creating an automation solution using an engineering system by interconnecting corresponding inputs and outputs of [[using]] automation objects[;], the automation objects being modules and the inputs and outputs being for at least one of predefining values for calculations and receiving results of the calculations; wherein

the interconnections are independent objects defining communication relationships between automation objects, and

the interconnecting further comprising,

connecting an output of an automation object to an input of an another automation object, an interconnection for a data source administering a reference to the

corresponding output of an automation module, and an interconnection for a data sink administering a reference to the corresponding input of an automation module; and

assigning, after creating an automation solution, the automation objects to physical equipment units of a system, wherein interconnections represent intra-equipment unit communications relationships and wherein communications relationships within an equipment unit is only determined as a result of the assigning.


CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Andrew M. Waxman, Reg. No. 56,007, at the number of the undersigned listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKY & PIERCE, PLC

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